

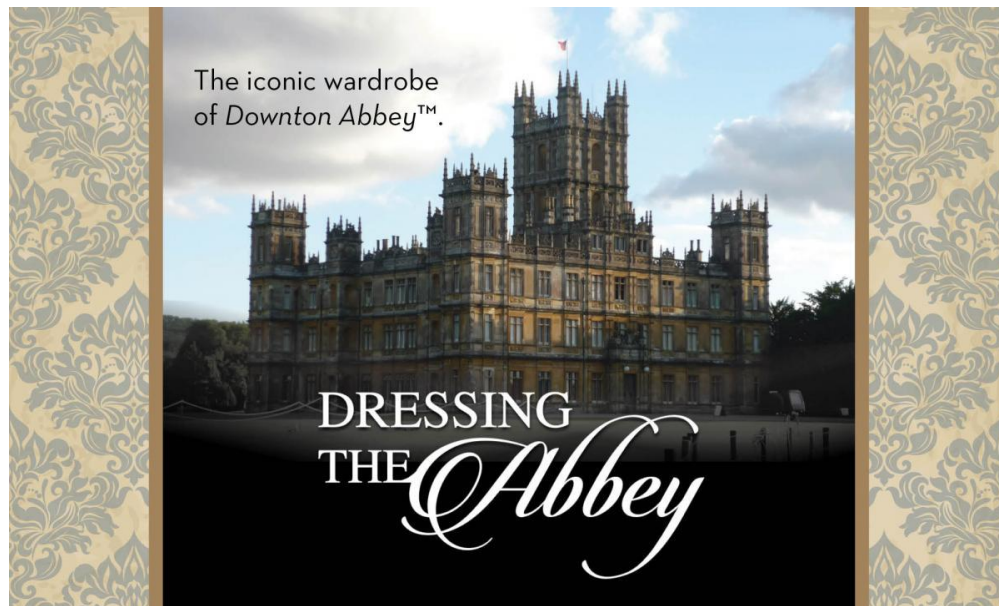
Media Contact:  
Marcie Gordon, Director, Community Engagement and Marketing  
North Carolina Museum of History  
919-280-1888, [marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov](mailto:marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov)

## News Release



NORTH CAROLINA  
MUSEUM OF HISTORY  
A Smithsonian Affiliate

### Only Two Weeks Until *Dressing the Abbey* Debuts at the North Carolina Museum of History



Designed by Cosprop Ltd., London, England, and distributed by EDG, USA, with the disclaimer as noted in Agreement.

For exhibit logos, images, a sampling of featured costumes, and sponsorship logos, follow this [Dropbox link](#).

**October 13, 2021 (RALEIGH, N.C.)** — The North Carolina Museum of History is excited to host [Dressing the Abbey](#), a costume exhibition that highlights fashion from one of the most widely watched television dramas in the world, *Downton Abbey*™. The exhibition of the iconic wardrobe of *Downton Abbey*™, designed and owned by leading film and Broadway costumier Cosprop Ltd., London, England, and toured by Exhibits Development Group, St. Paul, Minnesota, will be on display at the North Carolina Museum of History from **October 23, 2021**, through **January 17, 2022**.

Mark your calendars! If you're already thinking about holiday gifts, winter birthdays, and unique anniversary gifts, place *Dressing the Abbey* on your shopping list. Advance tickets may be purchased online at [ncmuseumofhistoryshop.com](http://ncmuseumofhistoryshop.com), in person, or over the phone at 919-814-6970. COVID-19 measures for this hands-free experience are observed.

- \$15 for general admission

- MOHA/museum members enjoy their first visit free\*. Subsequent visits are at the discounted price of \$10. [Join today](#) to enjoy this amazing benefit! \*Number of free tickets vary based on membership level; please see below.
- \$12 for seniors (62 and up), military, and educators
- \$12 for [Smithsonian Affiliate](#) members
- \$12 for [NARM Affiliate](#) members
- \$10 for ages 7 to 17
- Children ages 6 and under are free

#### **Member Benefits:**

- Scribe: 1 complimentary ticket
- Archivist: 2 complimentary tickets
- Patriot-Enthusiast: 4 complimentary tickets
- Benefactor and higher: 6 complimentary tickets

This traveling exhibition will be open to visitors during normal museum hours. For more information regarding visiting the museum, please refer to <https://www.ncmuseumofhistory.org/about/plan-your-visit>.

#### ***Dressing the Abbey* Programming**

Read on for a current listing of online programs that engage in audiences beyond the exhibition. You can also stay up to date on all events and exhibits at the museum website: [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org). Programs are **FREE** unless otherwise noted. Advance registration, at [ncmuseumofhistory.org/events](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/events), is generally required to receive a confirmation email with information about joining online presentations.

#### [Creating Character: Behind the Scenes of Costume Production](#)

Tuesday, November 2, 7 p.m. via Zoom

From high-concept millinery to period gowns and armor, the process of bringing a costume designer's vision to life falls to the costume production department. In this program, Triffin Morris, costume director for the PlayMakers Repertory Company at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will explain the difference between costume design and costume production. Sharing stories from her more than two decades of experience on Broadway, Morris will highlight the varied skills required for a career in costume production, as well as the key role the costume studio plays in the theatrical world. Morris will be joined by some of her graduate students, who will discuss their current work, creating costumes inspired by the Ackland Art Museum collection.

#### [History and High Tea: From Concept to Screen](#)

Saturday, December 4, 3 p.m. via Zoom

Join Susannah Buxton, Emmy Award-winning costume designer for *Downton Abbey*™, Seasons 1 and 2, and the *Downton Abbey* Christmas Special, as she discusses her creative process, particularly when designing period costumes. Buxton will explore the inspiration behind her award-winning creations, several of which are on display in the exhibition *Dressing the Abbey*. She will also share stories and designs from her illustrious career, including her work on the PBS series *Poldark*.

#### [Coffee with a Curator: Staging the Abbey](#)

Tuesday, December 14, 10–10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Set dressing is the art of selecting the props and furniture to add to a stage or television production to give it the correct appearance and make it seem more accurate. From creating mood boards to identifying design eras, learn how museum curators carefully researched and selected museum artifacts and other items to fashion the appropriate backdrops for *Dressing the Abbey*.

#### [Textile Preservation Workshop](#)

Saturday, January 15, 2022, 10–11 a.m. via Zoom

Have you ever wondered how to care for your grandmother's quilt or a vintage wedding gown? Join Paige Myers, the museum's textile conservator, in this virtual program as she provides tips for the proper ways to clean, store, and display your family's textiles.

#### **More About This Exhibition:**

Experience original costumes worn by the stars of *Downton Abbey*<sup>™</sup> that depict fashions of the British aristocracy in the early 20th century. The exhibition showcases the turbulence and changes in the late Edwardian era through the 1920s by means of the fashions of the period while evoking fans' favorite moments. The exhibition presents the award-winning costumes created for the British hit drama produced by the London Academy award-winning costumier, Cosprop Ltd. The costumes were created for the television show's aristocratic Crawley family and their servants who inhabit the fictional English country estate of Downton Abbey. The costumes range from country tweeds and riding outfits; servants' uniforms and butler's livery; to lavish evening attire crafted from sumptuous fabrics and decorated with intricate embroidery, lace, and beading.

Ken Howard, Director of the Museum of History, shared, "We are thrilled that the North Carolina Museum of History is able to bring this exhibition to Raleigh. Our visitors and all the adoring fans of *Downton Abbey*<sup>™</sup> will enjoy seeing the costumes from this award-winning program that so captured the public's attention."

*Dressing the Abbey* is sponsored by PBS North Carolina, WUNC Public Radio, WHQR Public Media, and WFDD.

# # #

*The exhibition is developed and distributed by Exhibits Development Group in cooperation with Cosprop Ltd., London, England. The exhibition is not endorsed by, sponsored by, licensed by, associated with, or otherwise affiliated with the television series Downton Abbey<sup>™</sup>, NBC Universal International, Carnival Film and Television Limited or their representatives.*

#### **About Exhibits Development Group (EDG):**

The Exhibitionists are dedicated to the development, production, marketing, and distribution of traveling museum exhibitions and cultural projects worldwide. EDG serves as a partner to museums, foundations, collection owners and other exhibition organizers, in the U.S. and abroad in the care and stewardship of

their exhibitions and collections. EDG's mission is to initiate and promote international cultural and intellectual exchange by bringing high-quality traveling exhibitions of art, science, and history to broad and diverse audiences.

---

**For information about the NC Museum of History**, a Smithsonian Affiliate museum, call 919-814-7000 or access [ncmuseumofhistory.org](http://ncmuseumofhistory.org) or follow the museum on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

#### **About the NC Museum of History**

The North Carolina Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, fosters a passion for North Carolina history. This museum collects and preserves artifacts of state history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. **Admission is free.** In 2019 more than 465,000 people visited the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

#### **About the Smithsonian Affiliations Network**

Since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History has been a Smithsonian Affiliate, part of a select group of museums and cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share Smithsonian resources with the nation. The Smithsonian Affiliations network is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums and other educational and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at [affiliations.si.edu](http://affiliations.si.edu).

#### **About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**

The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational, and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries, and natural assets in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums, and Jennette's Pier, as well as 39 state parks and recreation areas, the North Carolina Zoo, the nation's first state-supported symphonic orchestra, the State Library of North Carolina, the State Archives of North Carolina, the North Carolina Arts Council, the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, along with the state Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, call 919-814-6800 or visit [DNCR.nc.gov](http://DNCR.nc.gov).

###